would greatly enhance the ease of doing business and making professional access to the vast Indian domestic market as an incentive for export production in the country.

(v) Encouraging foreign collaboration for investment and technology. This includes automatic approval for foreign equity upto 51%/74% in high priority industries and automatic permission for foreign technology agreements in such industries with certain ceiling on payments. Import designs and drawing have been allowed duty free.

(vi) Encouragements to NRIs and Overseas Corporate Bodies predominently owned by NRIs to invest in India. This includes automatice approval upto 100% equity in priority industries.

(vii) Implementation of a quality infrastructure programme called the Standardization, Testing and Quality Certification (STQC) Programme to promote the quality of Indian electronic goods, ISO certification programme for quality improvement.

(viii) Participation in and sponsoring of seminars, exhibitions, business delegations etc. abroad and in India.

(ix) An Export Promotion Board has been set up by the Government to examine and resolve issues that requires inter-ministerial co-ordination. A number of decisions have been taken by the EPB to boost electronic exports, such as notification of fast track clearance of imported goods and relaxation of rules for hiring of foreign nationals and export of replacement goods.

(x) A number of measures have been announced in the revised Exim Policy 1997—2002, which shall go a long way to boost electronics exports. These include improvement of:—

(a) Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG) scheme for the electronics and software sectors,

(b) Quality based Advance Licence Scheme,

(c) Special Import Licence (SIL) entitlement for electronics sector for exports under Duty Entitlement Pass Book (DEPB) and

(d) Depreciation Limit for EOU/EPZ units in Electronic Sector.

(xi) Government hve appointed a National Task Force on Information Technology and Software Development to formulate the Draft of a National Information Policy.

(xii) The Development Council for Electronics Industry have been constituted.

**Electronic Governance in Andhra Pradesh**

3269. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh has proposed the establishment of an Institute of Electronic Government in Hyderabad;

(b) if so, the details of this proposal;

(c) whether Government are keen to encourage modernisation of administration;

(d) if so, what steps will be taken to establish an Institute of Electronic Government in Hyderabad; and

(e) what is the seed capital required to ground this proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING,

REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI R. JANARTHANAN): (a) No such proposal is pending for consideration in the Government.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir. The Government had established an Expert Group for Computerisation of the Information on Personnel and Citizen Services. The recommendations of the Expert Group are being implemented and the progress reviewed by a High Powered Committee under the Chairmanship of Cabinet Secretary. The Planning Commission has also advised all Ministries/Departments to earmark 1—3% of their outlay for use of information technology in Government.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

**कमजोर वर्गों के लिए कम्प्यूटर शिक्षा**

3270. **श्री जनेश्वर मिश्र:** क्या **प्रधान मंत्री** यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि आजकल कम्प्यूटर रोज़गार का सबसे बड़ा साधन बन गया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार निर्धन एवं कमजोर वर्गों के शिक्षित और बेरोज़गार युवाओं को कम्प्यूटर की अच्छी शिक्षा सस्ती दरों/शुल्क पर मुहैय्या कराने हेतु कोई कार्यक्रम चला रही है;

(ग) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(घ) यदि नहीं, तो सरकार इस संबंध में कोई योजना कब तक बनाएगी?

**कार्मिक, लोक शिकायत तथा पेंशन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा वित्त (बैंकिंग, राजस्व और बीमा) मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री आर० जनार्दनन):** (क) से (ग) इलेक्ट्रॉनिक एवं सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी के क्षेत्र में रोज़गार के अवसर बढ़ रहे हैं। इलेक्ट्रॉनिकी विभाग, भारत सरकार की इलेक्ट्रॉनिकी विभाग-कम्प्यूटर पाठ्यक्रमों की मान्यता (डीओईएसीसी) संस्था द्वारा अनौपचारिक क्षेत्र (सार्वजनिक तथा निजी दोनों ही) में मान्यता प्राप्त संस्थानों के माध्यम से गरीब एवं कमजोर वर्गों के शिक्षित एवं बेरोज़गार युवाओं को कम्प्यूटर शिक्षा प्रदान की जा रही है। इस संस्था ने अखिल भारतीय तकनीकी शिक्षा परिषद (एआईसीटीई) के साथ एक समझौता पत्र पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं। पूरे देश में अखिल भारतीय तकनीकी शिक्षा परिषद द्वारा मान्यता प्राप्त पॉलीटेक्नीकों के माध्यम से भी कम्प्यूटर शिक्षा प्रदान की जा रही है। देश के कुल 1135 पॉलीटेक्नीकों में से 421 पालीटेक्नीक कम्प्यूटर विज्ञान अनुप्रयोग एवं इंजीनियरी में डिप्लोमा तथा 35 पॉलीटेक्नीक स्नातकोत्तर डिप्लोमा प्रदान कर रहे हैं।

(घ) यह प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता।

**Shimla Agreement**

3271. SHRI SANATAN BISI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that already there is a no-war clause in Simla Agrement signed between India and Pakistan;

(b) whether there is any bearing of the above agreement on the proposal of no-first-use treaty; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) Inida and Pakistan resolved, in the Simla Agreement, to settle their differences by peaceful means, maintain harmonius relations and respect each other's territorial integrity. India and Pakistan had also agreed to refrain from threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of each other.

India has consistently upheld the letter and spirit of the Simla Agreement. India's offer to discuss a No First Use of Nuclear Weapon Agreement with Pakistan is within this framework.

**Transfer of Russian Missiles from China to Pakistan**

3272. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Russian missiles may find their way to Pak from China", as